

# *Pentagon Budget Expands Special Ops, Cuts Benefits*

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Washington, February 26 (RHC)-- The Pentagon has outlined a five-year budget plan that would shrink the number of active-duty U.S. soldiers to its smallest size since before World War II while expanding the number of special operations personnel.

U.S. Defense Secretary Chuck Hagel outlined the proposal in Washington. He said that under the plan, the number of active-duty soldiers would decrease to about 450,000, but special operations forces would increase by about six percent to nearly 70,000. The plan also includes cuts to military benefits.

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